
Subject: Re: Arrays of Structures

Posted by news.qwest.net on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 20:52:48 GMT

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<mgalloy@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:1170966075.702031.236230@k78g2000cwa.googlegroups.com.. .
> On Feb 8, 12:09 pm, "R.G. Stockwell" <n...@email.please> wrote:
>> "Mick Brooks" <mick.bro...@gmail.com> wrote in message
>>
>> news:1170957886.387622.208430@l53g2000cwa.googlegroups.com.. .
...
> I'm not sure that is an expression thing either. When I try to index
> an expression, I get a syntax error:
>
> IDL> print, findgen(10)[5]
>
> print, findgen(10)[5]
> ^
> % Syntax error.

Right. This is a syntax error. IDL does not know how to parse it.
The difference is that struct.a[5] is not a syntax error, idl does know
and must know how to parse that expression. In this case though, it
is trying to access the 5th element of a, which is out of bounds.
Note that the following works

```
IDL> help,struct.a[0]  
<Expression> INT = Array[50]
```

(and the rest of your post made sense to me.)

The point is, that struct is an array. If you want to access
the array elements you must do

```
IDL> structs[*].a.
```

Or IDL lets you cast the expression into a temporary array as follows:

```
IDL> help, (struct.a)[22]  
<Expression
```

```
IDL> help,junk.a
```

```
<Expression> INT = Array[50]
```

```
IDL> help,(junk.a)
```

```
<Expression> INT = Array[50]
```

```
> INT = 1
```

The original point I made is that you cannot dereference an expression, you have to have parenthesis on it.

Cheers,
bob
